Dear Brethren Grand Traverse Bay Apl 6 1842

I received a letter in Feb'y from your Cor. Sec'y requesting me to communicate to you such matter respecting this mission as may be of interest. I would here acknowledge the receipt of a letter to the same effect written by Br. Rawkin. Constant and pressing duties prevented me from answering that in proper season. Your present communication would have received an earlier answer if there had been any way of conveying letters from this; and it may be some weeks yet before this can be forwarded.
The location of this mission is on a small Peninsula in Grand Traverse Bay on the eastern border of Lake Michigan. The particulars respecting the progress of the mission since its establishment you doubtless have learned from from the Societys publecation. As you are to some extent acquainted with the habits of the Indian people you know the work of instruction both in civil and religious things must be gradual. Those who inhabit on this bay and along the shores of Lakes Michigan and Huron are part Ojibwas (commonly written Chippeways) and Ottawahs. These are brother tribes and in this region are intermingled in their villages. Most of the Ottawaws are nominally Catholics. There is none that gives any evidences of piety except one old man and I fear his consists mostly in external forms. With few exceptions the Ojibwas cling to their own superstition. The bands among whom we are located are making some commendable improvement in civilization and if intemperance could be banished from their midst one of the greatest hindrances to the gospel and civilization would be taken out of the way. We are making an effort to form a temperance society among them. I had been pressing the

subject on the minds of some during the winter urging them to the adoption of a pledge. While I was doing this their excelent Agent Mr Robt. Stuart forwarded me a letter in which he strongly urged this on the Chiefs and principle men. I laid this letter before them and urged this on them as an important step. They have the matter under consideration and will soon meet in council to decide what they will do. We anxiously wait the result. If they abandon the use of intoxicating drink the aspect will be more favorable. There is perhaps more that is encouraging in appearance at this place than at any other Indian mission in this northern region, and we hope that some will be led to embrace the Savior. But our fondest hopes may be disappointed. The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. It is the same here as elsewhere; it is enmity against God and nothing but the Spirit of God can change it. The Lord has been moving on the heart of some of these people. What his design respecting them is we know not. He has laid his hand on us in a most solemn providence removing by death the little girl who has been with us for two years. She was a very promising girl of about 12 years of age. She was sick two weeks with a bilious fever which terminated in an inflamation of the intestines and baffled all our attempts to save her. As an exhibition of their superstitious feeling I will mention some circumstances in relation to her sickness. After she had been sick a few days her father came and inquired if such and such Indians had slept here any time during the winter and expressed the belief that a certain Indian had sent this sickness on her. After she was buried they got a young man to watch

the grave several night to see if the one who had killed her would come to get her tongue and toes to make more bad medicine. They believe that such Indians (called medicine men) have the power to change themselves into different animals and that from they visit the grave at night.

We hope the Lord will sanctify this providence and make it a means of good to this people This week I invited those who had made up their minds to abandon their own superstition & take the religion of Jesus to meet me. A number came and at the close of the meeting ten came forward and gave their names. Pray for these dear brethren, that the Lord would give them new hearts enable them to believe in the Lord Jesus to the saving of their souls

Remember me to the professors of the Seminary to Mrs Hamilton &c I will be happy to receive communications frequently and will answer them as promptly as time will permit

Yours in the bond of christian love

P. Dougherty

Apl 27th P.S. Since writing the above we have had a temperance meeting and near sixty have signed the temperance rather total abstinence pledge. At our second meeting for inquirers Seventeen additional names were given.

Mrs Dougherty's health is such that she will have to leave the Station for a time and will probably visit her father this summer. She will be accompanied by Mr & Mrs Bradley the teacher who expect to visit their friends in Pensylvania. If these people remain here we will have to put up a larger building for meeting if funds can be obtained P. Dougherty

Rec^d long before it was put in my hands,
& that I cannot tell when.
Answered - Oct. 19. 1842.

The Corresponding Secretary of the
Committee of Foreign Missions.
Theological Seminary
Princeton
New Jersey